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July 27, 1900

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per day. During my absence from Eagle Pass, the guards, assisted by the State health officer, will look out for the interest of the Service here.

Please wire whether or not you think this inspection advisable. The weather is quite warm, and should you deem it wiser for me to remain here I will do so with much pleasure.

Respectfully,

LEA HUME,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

NOTE.—He was directed to inspect Del Rio and points in the vicinity.

Laredo, Tex., July 13, 1900—Yellow-fever suspect.—I have the honor to report that John Richdale, a destitute American citizen, seven days out from Tampico, Mexico, was held and placed in the observation camp to complete his ten days' quarantine, the State furnishing rations from a hotel during period of detention provided I had them delivered at camp from town.

Respectfully,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure]

Case of yellow fever reported at Tampico.

MONTEREY, MEXICO, *July 12, 1900.*

DEAR DOCTOR: * * * The health of Monterey continues good, though there have been some typhoid and some malarial fever. I have just heard from a drummer that a case of yellow fever was reported in Tampico yesterday.

I could get no particulars but think the information correct. I will try to find out if there are any more cases and will let you know.

Very truly,

Dr. H. J. HAMILTON, *Laredo, Tex.*

* * *

Cruise of the Bratton.

UNITED STATES STEAMER W. D. BRATTON,
Port Tampa, Fla., July 16, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the cruise of the *W. D. Bratton* ended July 15, 1900:

The *Bratton* left Port Tampa at 6 a. m. on the 12th instant and headed for Anclote and Cedar Keys; we arrived at Anclote at 3 p. m., and although the weather was very fine, we found 9 smacks in the harbor with the sponger *Clyde* of Key West suspiciously near them. As soon as they sighted us the *Clyde* got underway, but we soon overtook and boarded her but found nothing. We then boarded the smack *Antonio Barba*; she had certificate of disinfection dated June 27; crew all well. Special Inspector Browder seized one-half barrel of aguardiente on this vessel. While we were inspecting this vessel all the other smacks got underway and were soon beyond limit and headed out to sea. The *Bratton* was anchored for the night.

On the morning of the 13th, there being no smacks in sight, the *Bratton* was got underway, headed for Cedar Keys. We reached Sea Horse Key Light at 11 a. m., and no sails of any description being in sight, went about and headed for Anclote again. We arrived there about 4 p. m. A short while before reaching there we sighted a smack among the spongers and close in shore. We boarded her at once. She was the *Regla*, a vessel we had caught a number of times in Anclote Harbor and inspected. She had certificate of disinfection dated July 7. One man complained of headache and pains in abdomen; temperature and pulse were, however, normal. Inspector Browder seized one-half

barrel of aguardiente on this vessel. The vessel was ordered out, which order she lost no time in obeying.

We found 2 other smacks in Ancote Harbor, the *Juan Capdebou*, crew of 8 men, certificate of disinfection dated July 9, all well. Inspector Browder seized 1 barrel of aguardiente on this vessel. The other smack was the *Isabel*, crew of 7 men, disinfected July 9, all well. Inspector Browder seized a barrel of aguardiente on this vessel also. Both smacks went to sea at once, indulging in many threats and much abusive language.

There was no possible excuse for any of these vessels being in the harbor as the weather was very fine and they were at least 25 miles from any fishing grounds.

There were at this time about 100 spongers in the harbor. On the 14th I furnished Inspector Browder with a small boat and he boarded and inspected a number of the spongers.

No smacks were seen during the day and on the morning of the 15th the *Bratton* was got underway again and headed for Port Tampa, where she arrived about noon of the same day. No smacks were seen along the coast on the way down, although a sharp lookout was kept all the time.

The weather during the entire cruise was exceptionally good and we had no mishaps of any kind.

The *Bratton* is taking on coal, water, and other supplies to-day and if weather permits will leave early on the morning of the 17th for Charlotte Harbor and other points to the south of here.

Respectfully,

G. M. CORPUT,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

Inspection of vessels from San Francisco at Victoria, British Columbia.

PORT TOWNSEND QUARANTINE,
Port Townsend, Wash., July 10, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to state that during the period just passed when quarantine restrictions were placed upon vessels coming from San Francisco, upon 7 different occasions assistant officers from this office were detailed to go to Victoria, British Columbia, and inspect steamers of the Pacific Coast Steamship line either in conjunction with the British Columbia superintendent of quarantines or when that was impossible, on the way over to this port. This arrangement gave excellent satisfaction to all concerned and reduced the delay and discomfort of quarantine to vessels, carrying a large number of first-class passengers and perishable cargo, to practically nothing.

Respectfully,

M. H. FOSTER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Enteric fever in Charleston, S. C.

CHARLESTON, S. C., July 14, 1900.

SIR: In reply to your communication (E. R. J.) of the 11th instant, I have to state that there has been an unusual number of cases of enteric fever occurring in this city since the last week in May, but not enough to warrant the application of the term epidemic, and that the number of new cases is now rapidly decreasing.

From May 1 to July 1 (sixty-one days), there were 112 cases and 10 deaths (6 white and 4 colored). The cases were generally of a mild character. They were all investigated by the city bacteriologist and